

ITEM: 17

SUBJECT: Mountain House Community Services District, Wastewater Treatment Facility, San Joaquin County

BOARD ACTION: *Consideration of Renewal of NPDES Permit and Time Schedule Order*

BACKGROUND: Mountain House is a new planned community, undergoing rapid growth and development. The community is to the west of the City of Tracy. The Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) is being constructed in three phases. The Phase I WWTF (0.45 mgd) currently discharges to land under Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 98-109. The Phase II (3.0 mgd) WWTF is a new facility that includes tertiary treatment, nitrification, denitrification, and ultraviolet disinfection. The Phase II WWTF has been constructed with the exception of the outfall. The Phase III WWTF will expand the Phase II WWTF for flows up to 5.4 mgd. Order 98-192 currently authorizes a discharge of 5.4 mgd to Old River from the Phase II and III WWTFs, however discharges to surface water have not yet been initiated.

The proposed renewed NPDES permit replaces Order No. 98-192, for discharge to Old River. Order No. 98-109 will be retained pending shut down of the Phase I WWTF. The NPDES permit does not provide for any dilution credit, and includes new effluent limitations for ammonia, nitrate, nitrite, aluminum, iron, bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate, bromoform, cyanide, dichlorobromomethane, dibromochloromethane, Group A pesticides, and total trihalomethanes. It also includes time schedules for compliance with the effluent limitations for Group A pesticides (aldrin and heptachlor), bis(2-ethylhexylphthalate), and cyanide, and requires special studies to control salinity and electrical conductivity. Interim effluent limitations are included for these constituents.

The accompanying Time Schedule Order includes time schedules for compliance with the effluent limitations for aluminum, iron, and total trihalomethanes, and interim performance-based effluent limitations for aluminum and iron.

Since the tentative Orders were issued, staff determined that some calculation and transcription errors were made in the final effluent limitations for aluminum, ammonia, cyanide, and dibromochloromethane, and the interim limitations for aldrin, bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, and heptachlor. The calculation errors included failure to include non-detect values and use of an incorrect multiplier. In addition, staff determined that the interim effluent limitation for electrical conductivity could reasonably be reduced based on current performance. Changes to these limitations, and other minor editorial corrections, were made to correct the errors and are incorporated into the

agenda copy of the Orders. Redline/strikeout versions will be made available to the Discharger and any interested person.

ISSUES: Comments are due after agenda preparation, however staff anticipates comments related to the need for salinity effluent limitations and the proposed aluminum effluent limitation. Staff response to comments will be provided to the Regional Water Board and interested parties as soon as possible after receipt of comments.

Mgmt. Review _____

Legal Review _____

3/4 August 2006

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